

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-11 canceled

12. (New) Method for the preventive and curative treatment of alopecia comprising the administration to a patient in need thereof of an effective amount of a peptide corresponding to general formula (I)

X-Gly-His-Lys-Y (I) (SEQ ID Nos. 1-2)

or of the conjugate thereof corresponding to general formula (II)

A-X-Gly-His-Lys-Y (II) (SEQ ID Nos. 3-4)

in which

A represents the radical corresponding to

- a monocarboxylic acid of general formula (III)

HOOC-R (III)

in which

R represents a linear or branched C₁-C₂₄ aliphatic radical optionally substituted with a hydroxyl group, possibly containing one or more unsaturations,

- Lipoic acid or its reduced form, dihydrolipoic acid, N-lipoyl-lysine or retinoic acid,

X represents a chain of 1 to 3 Lys residues, that are optionally methylated, or, when the formula is formula (II), a bond,

Y represents an -OH or-NH₂ group,
the amino acids being in D, L or DL form,

or A-X represents a hydrogen atom,

in the form of enantiomers or of diastereoisomers, and also the mixtures thereof, including racemic mixtures.

13. (New) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the acid of general formula (III) is an omega-3 acid chosen from α -linolenic acid, cervonic acid, timnodonic acid and pinolenic acid or a C₁-C₂₄ aliphatic radical chosen from acetic acid, myristic acid, palmitic acid, and hydroxydecenoic and decenoic acids, or an acid chosen from lipoic acid or its reduced form, dihydrolipoic acid, N-lipoyl-lysine or retinoic acid.

14. (New) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein A is chosen from lipoic acid and acetic acid.

15. (New) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the conjugate is chosen from:

1- A-MeLys-Lys-Lys-Gly-His-Lys-NH₂ (SEQ ID No. 5),

- 2- A-MeLys-Lys-Gly-His-Lys-NH₂ (SEQ ID No. 6),
- 3- A-MeLys-Gly-His-Lys-NH₂ (SEQ ID No. 7),
- 4- A-MeLys-Lys-Lys-Gly-His-Lys-OH (SEQ-ID No. 8),
- 5- A-MeLys-Lys-Gly-His-Lys-OH (SEQ ID No. 9),
- 6- A-MeLys-Gly-His-Lys-OH (SEQ ID No. 10),
- 7- A-Lys-Lys-Gly-His-Lys-NH₂ (SEQ ID No. 11),
- 8- A-Lys-Gly-His-Lys-NH₂ (SEQ ID No. 12),
- 9- A-Lys-Lys-Gly-His-Lys-OH (SEQ ID No. 13),
- 10- A-Lys-Gly-His-Lys-OH (SEQ ID No. 14),

A being an acid of general formula (III) as defined in claim 12.

16. (New) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the peptide or peptide conjugate is chosen from:

H-Gly-His-Lys-OH,

Lipoyl-Lys-Gly-His-Lys-NH₂,

Ac-Lys-Gly-His-Lys-NH₂.

17. (New) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein, combined with the peptide or peptide conjugate, is a compound that improves hair regrowth, chosen from minoxidil, nicotinic acid esters, anti-inflammatory agents, retinoic acid or derivatives thereof, retinol or 5 α -reductase inhibitors.

18. (New) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein, combined with the peptide or peptide conjugate, is another peptide corresponding to the formula

W-Lys-Asp-Val-Z (I) (SEQ ID Nos. 15-16)

or the peptide conjugate thereof corresponding to formula (II)

A-W-Lys-Asp-Val-Z (II) (SEQ ID Nos. 17-18)

in which

A has the same definition as that given in claim 12,

and W represents

Glu-Gln-Arg, Arg-Lys, Arg-Lys-Asp, Arg or a bond,

when Z represents

Tyr-Val-Gln-Leu-Tyr-NH₂, Leu-DOPA, DOPA-NH₂ or

HomoPhe-NH₂,

or W represents

Gly-Gln-Gln or Glu-Gln,

when Z represents

Tyr-Val-Gln-Leu-Tyr-NH₂, Leu-DOPA, Val-Tyr-OH,

Val-Tyr-NH₂, Tyr-NH₂, Tyr-OH, DOPA-NH₂ or HomoPhe-NH₂,

in the form of enantiomers or of diastereoisomers, and also the mixtures thereof, including racemic mixtures, and the complexes with zinc which can be formed with these peptides or peptide conjugates.

19. (New) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the administration is made by topical route and wherein a UVB-screening agent chosen from p-aminobenzoic acid or PABA and esters thereof, cinnamates, salicylates, benzimidazoles, benzyldenecamphor derivatives, and triazines, is combined to the peptide or peptide conjugates.

20. (New) A method of cosmetic treatment for combating hair loss, comprising the application to the scalp of a patient in need thereof of a composition comprising a peptide or a peptide conjugate as described in claim 12, optionally combined with a compound that improves hair regrowth as defined in claims 17 and 18, and with a UVB-screening agent as defined in claim 19.

21. (New) A food supplement, characterized in that it comprises a peptide or a peptide conjugate as claimed in claim 12, optionally combined with a compound that improves hair regrowth as defined in claims 17 and 18.

22. (New) A method of cosmetic treatment for combating hair loss, comprising the administration to a patient in need thereof of a food supplement as claimed in claim 21.